

Bird Scarers - Advice for Farmers

The advice in the code of practice advises taking practical steps to minimise the impact of bird scarers on surrounding neighbours. These include:

- Avoiding the use of bird scarers within at least 200m of residential buildings before 7am, or before 6am elsewhere, and after 10pm.
- Minimising disturbance by placing the scarers as far away as practical and pointing away from neighbours.
- Avoiding using on a Sunday.
- Avoiding positioning bird scarers adjacent to rights of way.
- Avoiding positioning scarers near roads or bridleways.
- Use of reflective or absorbent baffles to concentrate the sound onto the field and away from neighbours

There are steps that farmers take to reduce the need for scarers. These include:

- Planting crops vulnerable to bird damage next to roads or other locations where the birds will be disturbed.
- Locating scarers as far away from buildings where people sleep or where quiet is important, so that if it is necessary to resort to the use of auditory scarers their impact will be minimised.
- Grow small-scale crops under netting. Fencing or electrified netting can protect crops near watercourses from swans and geese. Strings or tape suspended roughly 50 metres apart may prevent waterfowl flying into crops.

For more information, please see the NFU Code of Conduct

[Bird Scarers leaflet Update 09.08.12.indd \(nfuonline.com\)](#)